STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 14, 2000

Prepared on June 13, 2000

ITEM: 4

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

Brief discussion of some items of interest to the Board follow. Upon request, staff can provide more detailed information about any particular item.

REGULATION SUMMARY OF APRIL/MAY 2000

[Corinne Huckaby 805/549-3504
and Maura Mahon 805/542-4642]

Orders	
Reports of Waste Discharge Received	10
Requirements Pending	37
Inspections Made	91
Self-Monitoring Reports Reviewed	529
Stormwater Reports Reviewed	4
Enforcement	
Non-Compliance Letters Sent:	
NPDES Program	2
Non-Chapter 15 WDR Program	9
Chapter 15 Program	0
Unregulated	0
CAOs Issued	0
ACL Complaints	1
Notice to Comply (NTC)	0
Storm Water (NOV)	0
Unregulated (FTS's – Tanks)	14

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

[Corinne Huckaby 805/549-3504]

Conditional Certification is recommended to the State Board Executive Director when a project may adversely impact surface water quality. Conditions allow the project to proceed under an Army Corps permit, while upholding water quality standards.

The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) has given approval of the "rule making record" and proposed regulations to govern Water Quality Certification. The new regulations could go into effect as early as June 25, 2000. The new regulations will:

1. Delegate day to day certification action to the Regional Boards (EO). Multi-Region issues and water rights issues will still be handled by State Board.
2. Implement a new fee structure. The new fees will be: $500 for standard certification and $1000 per acre (up to 10 acres) for conditional certifications. There are three actions available, Standard Certification ($500), Conditional Certification ($1000/acre up to 10 acres), and Denial.
3. Revise the petition process to include aggrieved parties, not just the applicant.
4. Brings the program into better compliance with CEQA, permit streamlining, the Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne.

In general, staff recommends "Waiver of Certification" when the applicant proposes adequate mitigation. Measures included in the application must assure that beneficial uses will be protected, and water quality standards will be met.

Staff will recommend "No Action" when no discharge or adverse impacts are expected. Generally, a project must provide beneficial use and habitat enhancement for no action to be taken by the Regional Board.

A chart on the following page lists applications received through June 13, 2000.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN APRIL 20, 2000 AND JUNE 13, 2000

Date received	Applicant	Project Description	Receiving Water	Action Taken
April 25, 2000	City of Arroyo Grande	Tally Ho Road Improvements Road	Unnamed Blueline Creek To Arroyo	Waiver
April 28, 2000	Paso Robles Vineyards Inc.	Install earth dam into dry unnamed swale	Unnamed Swale Huerhuero Ranch	Pending
May 1, 2000	AT&T	Japan-U.S. Cable Network	Pacific Ocean	Pending
May 1, 2000	Caltrans	Repair to undercut bridge abutment over Atascadero Creek	Atascadero Creek	Pending
May 5, 2000	Swanton-Pacific Railroad	Vegetated cribwall to repair eroding streambank	Scott Creek	Pending
May 9, 2000	Meier, Wilma And Jeffrey	Fairview Tract 1747	Unnamed Tributary To	Pending
May 12, 2000	Caltrans	Retrofit abutments of creek bridge	Alamo Creek	Pending
May 16, 2000	Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District	Chorro Creek Instream Habitat Improvement Project Phases 2, 3	Chorro Creek	Pending
June 01, 2000	Caltrans	Placement of rockslope protection	Huerhuero Creek	Pending
June 01, 2000	Morro Bay Limited	Construct road crossings across seasonal streams for residential	Ellysly Creek	Pending
June 01, 2000	Camp San Luis Obispo	Environmental restoration project	Chorro Creek	Pending
June 02, 2000	Bureau of Land Management	San Benito River hardened crossing repair	San Benito River	Pending
June 05, 2000	Richard Burchiel	Stabilize Streambank	Toro Creek/Wetlands	Pending
June 07, 2000	Bonfante Gardens Nursery	Permanent Bridge Over Uvas Creek	Uvas Creek	Pending
June, 13, 2000	San Luis Obispo County Engineering	Santa Rosa Creek Road Bridge	Santa Rosa Creek	Pending

CH\H\BDMTG\EO_RPT WQ. TABLE

LOW THREAT DISCHARGES

This section is for dischargers who have requested approval to discharge water that poses insignificant threat to water quality or for sites recommended for case closure (low risk sites where no further regulatory action is required). Consequently, we conditionally approved of these proposals. Conditions common to each approval are:

1. If you, the Regional Board, object to the proposal, an NPDES permit or waste discharge requirements will be prepared for the Board's consideration.

2. The discharger remains liable for any treatment system failure that results in significant discharge of pollutants.

3. We have a "low threat discharges" general permit for surface water discharges available, and the discharger may be required to file for coverage by that permit.

Site descriptions and specific conditions are listed below for each case.

Pajaro Valley Unified School District, 205 Blackburn Street, Watsonville; Santa Cruz County [Matthew Keeling (805) 549-3685]

Staff recommends the discharge of treated ground water from the subject facility be regulated under Order No. 96-4, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) No. CAG993001, Waste Discharge Requirements, General Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (General Permit) adopted by the Board on October 18, 1996. The proposed discharge will comply with Regional Board standards, prohibitions, and requirements to protect water quality.

Through historical operations of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) maintenance and operations facility petroleum hydrocarbons including fuel oxygenates such as methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) were released to the subsurface as a result of underground storage tank and product distribution system spills and leaks. Subsequently, soil and ground water beneath the PVUSD maintenance and operations facility located at 205 Blackburn Street is contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons and MTBE. The PVUSD is taking proactive measures to contain and remediate the contaminated ground water with the installation of a ground water extraction and treatment system at the site.

Ground water containing petroleum hydrocarbons will be removed from the subsurface via four extraction wells located onsite. The volatile petroleum hydrocarbons and MTBE will be removed from the extracted ground water via three 1,000 pound granular activated carbon vessels connected in series. The treatment system flow rate will be approximately 4 gallons per minute and will discharge the treated ground water directly to the storm sewer via an underground pipe. The storm drain discharges to the Pajaro River and ultimately Monterey Bay. Treatment system redundancy, routine inspection, maintenance and confirmation sampling ensure the discharge will pose a low threat to water quality. Staff has revised the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 91-46 for the subject site to include monitoring and reporting requirements for the treatment system and discharge. The site specific MRP No. 91-46 will be used in conjunction with the General Permit MRP No. 96-4 to ensure the protection of water quality. Extracted ground water will be treated to drinking water standards prior to discharge and no adverse effects are expected.

Public notification of the proposed discharge has been conducted for all property owners within a 300-foot radius of the site. Pending substantive comments by the public or Board, staff will authorize the discharge of treated ground water under the General Permit.

Quik Stop Market No. 63; 2303 East Lake Ave., Watsonville; Santa Cruz County [Matthew Keeling (805) 549-3685]

Staff recommends the discharge of treated ground water from the subject facility be regulated under Order No. 96-4, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) No. CAG993001, Waste Discharge Requirements, General Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality (General Permit) adopted by the Board on October 18, 1996. The proposed discharge must comply

with Regional Board standards, prohibitions, and requirements to protect water quality.

Petroleum hydrocarbons including fuel oxygenates such as methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) were released to the subsurface as a result of underground storage tank and product distribution system spills and leaks. Quik Stop Markets, Inc. is taking measures to remediate the contaminated soil and ground water with the installation of a soil vapor and ground water extraction and treatment system at the site.

Ground water and soil vapors containing petroleum hydrocarbons will be removed simultaneously from the subsurface via an extraction well located onsite. The volatile petroleum hydrocarbons and MTBE will be removed/stripped from the extracted ground water in a spray aeration tank. Treated ground water leaving the spray aeration tank will be polished via three in-line granular activated carbon treatment canisters to ensure that all contaminants are removed prior to discharge to the storm sewer draining to Corralitos Creek and ultimately the Monterey Bay. Petroleum hydrocarbon vapors stripped from the treated ground water will be combined with extracted soil vapor and will be thermally oxidized (burned) in an internal combustion engine as regulated by the Air Pollution Control District (APCD). The treatment system flow rate will be approximately 2.5 gallons per minute and will discharge the treated ground water directly to the storm sewer via an underground pipe. Treatment system redundancy, routine inspection, maintenance and confirmation sampling ensure the discharge will pose a low threat to water quality. Staff has revised Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 99-015 to include monitoring and reporting requirements for the treatment system and discharge. MRP No. 99-015 will be used in conjunction with the General Permit MRP No. 96-4 to ensure the protection of water quality. Extracted ground water will be treated to drinking water standards prior to discharge and no adverse effects are expected.

Public notification of the proposed discharge has been conducted for all property owners within a 300-foot radius of the site. Pending substantive comments by the public or Board, staff has tentatively authorized the discharge of treated ground water under the General Permit to begin on July 17, 2000.

Esalen Institute, Monterey County - Recision of NPDES Permit No. CA0048577 and Coverage under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 97-10-DWQ [Tom Kukol 805/549-3689]

Esalen Institute, a private lodging, dining, educational, and recreational facility on the Big Sur Coast, operates a domestic wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system. Prior to 1989, the wastewater system discharged to the Pacific Ocean in an area that eventually became the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The discharge is regulated under the NPDES Program. Esalen improved the system in 1989, essentially eliminating the actual ocean discharge in favor of land disposal. While ocean discharge does not normally occur, the ocean discharge pipeline is still in place and available for emergencies. Since Esalen Institute only discharges to the Sanctuary during extremely unusual emergency conditions and all possible measures should be taken to minimize or eliminate discharges to the Sanctuary, rescission of the NPDES is appropriate. Staff proposes to terminate NPDES Permit No. CA0048577 by rescinding it and, regulate the discharge under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 97-10-DWQ. That order establishes statewide, general waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for discharges to land by small, domestic wastewater treatment systems.

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA), Harkins Slough Diversion Project, Santa Cruz County [Bill Arkfeld 805/542-4627]

On June 1, 2000, the PVWMA was authorized to discharge under "Order No. 96-4, NPDES No. CAG993001, "Waste Discharge Requirements General Permit for Discharges with Low Threat to Water Quality". The proposed discharge is considered a "low threat" discharge because the discharge only occurs for approximately six weeks during high flow conditions in Watsonville Slough. The Discharger has also committed to add appropriate backwash water treatment if the discharge is found to significantly degrade water

quality in Watsonville Slough. Monitoring requirements for the proposed discharge are addressed in Monitoring & Reporting Program No. 00-78.

The Pajaro Valley Water Management District (PVWMA) is seeking ways to control seawater intrusion in the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin. On October 23, 1997, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) reserved $5 million for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency for seawater intrusion control. The PVWMA submitted a satisfactory application for $5 million and received facilities plan approval for the subject project on December 24, 1999. The SWRCB is scheduled to consider final approval of up to $5 million dollars at their June 15, 2000 meeting.

The Harkins Slough Project is the first phase of a set of projects proposed via the PVWMA's May 7, 1999 "Local Water Supply and Distribution – Environmental Impact Report". The Harkins Slough Project involves pumping water from Harkins Slough, filtering this water via a proposed filtration plant, and pumping the filtered water through a pipeline to a groundwater recharge basin. The enhancement of shallow groundwater is expected to decrease the demand on the deeper aquifer currently experiencing seawater intrusion.

Backwash water from the proposed water filtration plant will be discharged to the Watsonville Slough during high flow periods (January through April). Historically, flood flows from the Harkins Slough were pumped to the Watsonville Slough. The proposed project utilizes this "flood flow" from Harkins Slough for groundwater recharge following filtration. As a result, the historic and post project sediment and turbidity loading to the Watsonville Slough is expected to be comparable. Although the flow in Watsonville Slough will be decreased by the amount diverted to the groundwater recharge basin, the resulting change in water quality is not expected to threaten beneficial uses in Watsonville Slough. If monitoring of the backwash reveals significant degradation of the water in Watsonville Slough, the PVWMA will be required to treat the backwash water or stop discharging.

CASE CLOSURES FOR ABOVE AND UNDERGROUND TANKS (UGT), AND SPILLS, LEAKS, INVESTIGATIONS AND CLEANUPS (SLIC)

This section is formatted to easily identify sites where staff is recommending case closure concurrence from the Board. Case closures generally fall into two categories - cases where cleanup goals have been met and cases where cleanup goals have <u>not</u> been met. In the first case, staff generally sends the responsible party a letter stating the case is now closed since cleanup objectives have been met and no further action is needed. Unless the Board objects, staff will continue to send closure letters and simply report these cases by way of the Executive Officer's report.

The second situation occurs where cleanup objectives are not yet met, but for various reasons, staff is recommending closure. These cases will be reported to the Board in more detail. For example, staff has discovered that some sites have a plume of contamination confined to a defined area. Ground water monitoring may show the plume is decreasing both in concentration and size, and does not threaten probable beneficial uses. Other specific circumstances may exist such as the plume may be confined to a shallow portion of the aquifer with no actual or expected uses of the groundwater. The reasons for staff recommending closure will be explained with each case.

We are presenting these closures in a manner similar to the way we present waivers of waste discharge requirements. That is, the case will be discussed and if the Board does not object to a case or wishes more information, the issue may be discussed at the Board meeting where we can provide clarification or the Board may reject our recommendation for closure.

Abbreviations commonly used for these cases:
TPH - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
TPHd - TPH measured in the carbon range of diesel
TPHg - TPH measured in the carbon range of gasoline
BTEX - Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, Xylene (components of gasoline)

MTBE - Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (gasoline oxygenate additive)
DCA or 1,2, DCA - dichloroethane (gasoline additive)
DCE - dichloroethylene (gasoline additive)
PCE -tetrachloroethylene or perchloroethylene (perc - a solvent)
TCE - trichloroethylene (a solvent)
TCA - trichloroethane (a solvent)

Staff Closed Cases

Tosco (Formerly Unocal) Service Station #5876 201 Sea Ridge Road, Aptos; Santa Cruz County [Bob Hurford, 805/ 542-4776]

This site is an operating gasoline service station. A due diligence soil gas survey was performed at the site in September, 1997 during the transfer of the facility from Unocal Corporation to Tosco. To confirm the findings of the soil gas survey, three exploratory borings were drilled on December 14, 1998. A grab ground water sample obtained from one of the borings contained MTBE at a concentration of 950 micrograms per liter (µg/L). Three monitoring wells were installed in September 1999. Ground water was only encountered in monitoring well MW-1 during the first sampling event. A ground water sample taken from MW-1 did not contain detectable levels of petroleum hydrocarbons or MTBE. Depth to shallow perched ground water at the site ranged from 6.4 feet below ground surface to greater than the bottom of the well screens, approximately 28 feet (well dry). The Pacific Ocean is approximately 1,500 feet to the southwest of the site.

A confirmation wet weather sampling event was performed on February 26, 2000. Ground water was found in all three wells. Sampling results indicated all ground water samples were at or below this Board's water quality objectives for petroleum hydrocarbons and MTBE. The site does not appear to pose a significant threat to ground water or surface water beneficial uses. Staff closed this case based on the confirmation that ground water samples obtained from on-site dedicated ground water monitoring wells during a wet weather sampling event did not contain levels of contaminants above this Board's Water Quality Objectives. Tosco Marketing Company is the property owner and has been notified of the case closure.

Santa Cruz County Sanitation District, Aptos Esplanade Pump Station, 103 Marina Avenue, Aptos, Santa Cruz County [Bob Hurford 805/542-4776]

The subject site is located about 200 feet northeast of where Aptos Creek drains into Monterey Bay. A 700 gallon fiberglass underground diesel storage tank (UST), used as part of the back-up power system for the pump station, was removed on July 24, 1998. Evidence of a leak appeared to come from the location where the fill pipe penetrates the UST. Four monitoring wells were already onsite, apparently installed in connection with a previously closed case at this location. The four monitor wells were sampled on January 28, 1999 and April 1, 1999. Ground water samples collected from the wells did not contain detectable concentrations of petroleum-related hydrocarbons or the gasoline additive, MTBE. The ground water monitoring wells were properly destroyed on August 2, 1999, under permit from the Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services, and staff received a copy of the certification of well destruction. The site does not appear to pose a significant threat to ground water or surface water quality. Based on the monitoring data, current land use, and minimal threat to water quality, staff closed the case. The Santa Cruz County Sanitation District is the property owner and has been notified of the case closure.

Former Cellular One, 851 Del Monte Avenue, Monterey, Monterey County [Wei Liu, 805/542-4648]

A 650-gallon waste oil storage tank was discovered during building demolition in November 1997. Subsequent rains resulted in water entering the tank and displacing oil from the tank into the subsurface before the tank was removed. Depth to ground water has been from four to six feet below ground surface. Subsequent investigations confirmed soil and ground water degradation from the spill. The waste oil tank was removed in December 1997. Approximately 26 cubic yards of contaminated soils, 100 gallons of

free product, and 1162 gallons of contaminated ground water were also removed during and after the underground tank removal. Recent ground water monitoring has shown all contaminants have been reduced to non-detect or below the Basin Plan's Water Quality Objectives or action levels in all monitoring wells. MTBE was not detected in either soil or ground water. Given that cleanup levels have been met at this site, staff has sent a case closure letter to the Responsible Party. The City of Monterey is the property owner and was notified of closure of this site.

Former Mid-State Electric, 220 Pine Street, Watsonville, Santa Cruz County; [Matthew Keeling 805/ 549-3685]

A 1,000 gallon underground gasoline storage tank and dispensing system were removed from the subject property on April 19, 1995. No new petroleum storage tanks were installed. An undocumented amount of over-excavation was conducted at the time of tank removal and it was speculated that petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soil was left in place. Levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg) of up to 7,700 mg/kg (parts per million), and benzene of up to as 4.4 mg/kg were detected in soil samples collected from beneath the former tank

Regional Board staff directed additional site characterization on January 2, 1997, to determine the extent of petroleum hydrocarbon contamination and the potential threat to ground water quality. Five exploratory soil borings were drilled on February 25, 1999, to collect additional soil samples in the former tank area and for the installation of dedicated ground water monitoring wells. Petroleum hydrocarbons were detected in one of the former tank area borings at levels of 22,000 mg/kg TPHg, 4 mg/kg benzene, 630 mg/kg toluene, 520 mg/kg ethylbenzene and 3,100 xylenes. Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) was not detected in any of the fifteen soil samples collected from all five borings. Three of the borings were subsequently converted to monitoring wells on February 25, 1999 and a quarterly ground water monitoring program was instituted. Four quarters of ground water monitoring from the three on-site monitoring wells has sufficiently characterized ground water beneath the site and indicates that no adverse impacts of petroleum hydrocarbons exist beneath the site. Ground water samples collected from the wells have been consistently non-detect for petroleum hydrocarbons, with only the sporadic detection of TPHg, BTEX, and MTBE compounds at or below this Board's water quality objectives. MTBE was detected for the first time during the March 2000 ground water monitoring event at 5 mg/L in MW-2. Based on the above information, no further ground water investigation or action is necessary and the site poses an insignificant threat to human health or ground water quality. Therefore, staff is proceeding to close this case. The property owner has been notified of the case closure and has been directed to implement and document the abandonment of certain monitoring wells. Staff will issue a final case closure letter upon receipt of the well abandonment report documenting the proper destruction of the monitoring wells.

Cases Recommended for Closure

Chevron Service Station No. 9-0801, 303 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz; Santa Cruz County, [Bob Hurford, (805) 542-4776]

The site is located at 303 Pacific Avenue, in Santa Cruz, California on the northeast corner of Washington Street and Pacific Avenue. Properties surrounding the site are occupied primarily by commercial businesses. Southern Pacific Transportation Corporation (SPTC) leased the site to Chevron from 1959 to 1985. Chevron operated a service station at the site from early 1960 until 1985. Records indicate that since 1960 Chevron operated at least six different underground storage tanks (USTs), two pump islands, and two hydraulic lifts at the site. The UST system consisted of a 6,000-gallon regular gasoline tank, one 4,000-gallon supreme gasoline tank, one 4,000-gallon and one 2,000-gallon unleaded gasoline tank, one 1,000-gallon diesel tank, and one 1,000-gallon waste oil tank. In 1985, the station was closed and all on-site equipment was removed.

The site was eventually sold to a real estate developer in 1987, and a motel was constructed on in 1992. To date, thirty two soil borings were drilled and sixteen monitoring wells have been installed at the site. During construction activities, the nine monitoring wells constructed in the first

phase of the investigation were abandoned. Currently, ground water at the site is monitored by the seven remaining monitoring wells. Petroleum hydrocarbon-impacted soil was excavated during the property re-development in 1989. A ground water extraction system operating at the site from April 1989 until 1992, was relocated on site during construction, and again operated from 1993 through 1995. Quarterly ground water monitoring has been conducted since 1989.

All petroleum hydrocarbon constituents have attenuated to below this Board's Water Quality Objectives except MTBE. MTBE was detected for the first time above Water Quality Objectives in monitoring well MW-11 on January 10, 2000 at a concentration of 24 parts per billion. The source of the MTBE remains unknown but is not considered to be related to Chevron's activities at this site. The MTBE could have originated from a variety of sources such as surface spills by autos or trailered boats, or spills from lawn and garden equipment/landscaping operations. However, it is not attributed to the former tanks at 303 Pacific Avenue.

Depth to ground water has ranged from about 3.7 to 24.3 feet below ground surface. The site is approximately 1,500 feet from the Pacific Ocean and does not appear to pose a significant threat to ground water quality in the area. Based on the monitoring and sampling history, the current land use, and minimal threat to water quality, staff recommends closing this case. Mr. Bill Reimal of Gilroy, CA is the property owner and was notified of staff's recommendation to close the case.

Betz Paving & Sealing, 2433 Freedom Blvd, Freedom, Santa Cruz County; [Matthew Keeling (805) 549-3685]

A 3,000 gallon underground gasoline storage tank and dispensing system was removed from the subject property on December 18, 1991. Approximately 50 cubic yards of contaminated soil were excavated and stockpiled on site during tank removal activities. Samples collected from the tank excavation indicated that petroleum hydrocarbon contaminated soil was still present and the over-excavation of approximately 200 cubic yards of additional soil was later performed on February 3-5, 1993. All contaminated soils were stockpiled on site, aerated to remove petroleum hydrocarbons, sampled, and spread on adjacent agricultural property.

No new petroleum storage tanks have been installed at this site. Subsequent to continued guidance from the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency and Regional Board's staff requesting a ground water investigation, three dedicated monitoring wells were installed at the site on June 2, 1999. Initial ground water sampling conducted on June 16, 1999 detected methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) at levels of 5 micrograms per liter (µg/L), 59 µg/L, and 61 µg/L in each of the three site monitoring wells. Total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes (BTEX) were either not detected or were detected at levels well below water quality objectives. The next two quarters of ground water sampling detected no MTBE in any of the site monitoring wells with TPHg and BTEX remaining at non detect or extremely low levels. The fourth quarter of ground water sampling conducted on March 22, 2000 detected MTBE at levels of 5 µg/L, and 12 µg/L in MW-3 and MW-1, respectively. Four quarters of ground water monitoring from the three on-site monitoring wells has sufficiently characterized ground water beneath the site and indicates that no significant impacts of petroleum hydrocarbons exist beneath the site. Based on the tank removal, soil excavation, and ground water monitoring activities discussed above staff believes that no further ground water investigation or action is necessary and the site poses an insignificant threat to human health or ground water quality. Therefore, staff is recommending the closure of this case. The property owner has been notified of staff's recommendation. Staff will proceed with case closure and direct the property owner to abandon all site monitoring wells provided the Board has no objections to this recommendation.

Environmental Improvement Project Underground Tank Removal

Ms. Ethyl Perry, Former San Miguel Exxon Station, 1010 K Street, San Miguel, San Luis Obispo County [Sheila Soderberg 805/549-3592]

B.P. Oil Company agreed to fund an environmental project involving removal of two

petroleum underground storage tanks (UGT) at an abandoned service station located at 1010 K Street, San Miguel. BP is funding the environmental project in lieu of penalties for failure to submit a quarterly monitoring report for a site in Monterey. Ms. Ethyl Perry, owner of the San Miguel site, is retired and cannot afford to pay for the tank removal project.

On April 7, 2000 Ms. Perry contracted to have the UGTs and associated piping removed from her property. BP, San Luis Obispo County Division of Environmental Health (County Health), and Regional Board staff coordinated with her contractor for the removal of the UGTs and ground water sample collection from one onsite well. On April 27 and 28, 2000, the UGTs were exposed and removed with oversight by County Health representatives. The UGT contractor also performed environmental soil and ground water sampling. The UGTs were transported by the contractor to a disposal facility. The site has been returned to the original grade so the environmental project is now complete.

Some soil and ground water contamination remains at the site, however, the source has been removed. Cleanup by natural attenuation is in progress.

Ms. Perry's UGT case remains under the purview of Regional Board staff.

Underground Storage Tanks with MTBE in Groundwater

List of Underground Storage Tank Sites with MTBE in Ground Water [Jay Cano (805) 549-3699]

At the June 2, 2000 meeting, the Board requested a list of underground storage tank sites where MTBE has been found in ground water. Attached is a list (Attachment 1) by County showing (among other information) the site name, address, date of latest MTBE analysis, MTBE concentration, distance to nearest well, and its ranking. The distance to nearest well is based on GIS data information. This is newly created information so it needs to be field verified. As such, the actual distance may be off approximately 100 feet according to the accuracy of GIS data. Rankings A, B, and C, are based on recent State Board developed guidelines which establish priority of response timing. For example, Priority A is the highest priority meaning that cleanup is to be initiated no later than one year after determining it priority. While these are intended to help staff prioritize its resources, some cases may require different timing. Some cases posing an immediate threat to a supply well will require cleanup sooner than a year; therefore the Boards have discretion to accelerate the schedule. Such cases may be required to initiate an interim cleanup action.

STATUS REPORTS

Buena Vista Mines, Inc., San Luis Obispo County, [Gerhardt Hubner 805/542-4647]

Site Conditions

On May 9, 2000, Regional Board staff inspected the Buena Vista Mine site. The inspection was made with Mr. Dave Brooks, caretaker for the mine.

Notes from the inspection:

- The lower pond continues to have approximately two feet of freeboard remaining. Pond water was observed to be relatively clear. Mr. Brooks was treating Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) waters in the ponds, and confirmed that adequate lime was on hand to process and treat the water. The upper pond was observed dry.
- The Mahoney Drift sump level was found to be low. The Mill well was pumping and operating properly.
- No discharge from the NPDES sampling location (culvert at the intersection of Klau Mine and Cypress Mtn. Rd.) was observed at the time of this inspection.
- Erosion control measures constructed in 1999 continue to be largely in place. One silt fence above the Western concrete ditch and below the Mill well was repaired (reported in last status report as collapsed and full of debris).

U.S. EPA Actions

Staff continues to receive reports that U.S. EPA is on-site and doing initial site preparation, surveying

and soil testing in preparation to complete the remaining response action contained in Unilateral Administrative Order. Earthwork is scheduled to begin the week of July 10th. This work includes removing the waste rock retort pile, and preparing a disposal site with final cover on another location within the Buena Vista Mine. In addition several of the hill slopes at the Buena Vista Mine will be terraced and erosion control measures applied. At the Klau Mine, the reservoir will be drained eliminating a potential surface recharge of the underground workings. Additional slope and erosion control features are also planned at the Klau Mine.

On June 8, 2000, Federal Court Judge Keller issued an Order staying the federal civil action for six months. The U.S. Attorney's office requested the stay to allow the U.S. EPA removal action to proceed, and determine what sort of action would be appropriate after the remedial work is completed. A reassessment would then be conducted. The stay was opposed by counsel for Buena Vista Mine Inc. (BVMI). The next status conference on this matter is scheduled for December 6, 2000.

On June 10, 2000, staff received a copy of a letter sent by Mr. Harold Biaggini and BVMI to Mr. David Rabbino, Assistant Regional Counsel for U.S. EPA. The letter criticizes Mr. Rabbino and U.S. EPA removal activities (See Attachment 2).

Regional Board Directives

On January 31, 2000 staff finalized and sent out a multi-page comment letter on BVMI's Final Compliance Plan (Plan), dated September 1999. On March 1, 2000, we received a copy of a petition to the SWRCB filed by Sullivan and Associates, attorney for Harold Biaggini and BVMI. The petition asks for the stay of the directives and orders contained in the January 31, 2000 letter (including the April 1, 2000 submission of the Engineering Design Report).

Staff responded to the petition by completing a rebuttal argument and compiling the administrative record. That response and copy of the record were sent to the Office of Chief Counsel at State Board on June 5, 2000.

No monitoring reports since Summer 1999 have been received by this agency as required under the existing NPDES permit.

Casmalia Resources, Santa Barbara County [Dan Niles 805/549-3355]

Historic Background

The Casmalia Site, known as the Casmalia Resources Hazardous Waste Management Facility, was an active hazardous waste disposal facility from 1973 to 1989. The Casmalia Site is located in northern Santa Barbara County immediately north and east of Vandenberg Air Force Base, and approximately eight miles southwest of Santa Maria. Title to the Casmalia Site and surrounding land is listed as "Casmalia Resources;" the corporation under which the site was operated during disposal activities.

The Regional Board along with the Department of Toxic Substances Control regulated facility operations until 1992. Casmalia Resources ceased site operations in 1992 and left the site in disrepair. As a result, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.EPA) implemented emergency response actions in 1992 to stabilize deteriorating site conditions and also assumed lead agency responsibilities for site remediation.

Regional Board staffs' current regulatory involvement at the Casmalia Site is under a multi-agency team lead by U. S. EPA. Other involved agencies include the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and the County of Santa Barbara.
Regional Board staff coordinate regulatory efforts at the Casmalia Site through an interagency agreement with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control. The Department of Toxic Substances Control is the lead agency for coordinating the State's involvement at the site. Regional Board staff oversight of the Casmalia Project is also funded through the interagency agreement.

Regional Board staffs' coordination on remedial efforts at the Casmalia Site are accomplished in a variety of ways including:

- written correspondence;

- technical meetings;
- field inspections;
- aerial surveillance;
- conference calls;
- participation in community workshops;
- technical review and discussion forums; and review and comment to technical reports and memorandums.

The Casmalia Resources Site Steering Committee (**CSC**) is currently implementing cleanup activities at the Casmalia Site under U. S. EPA's oversight. The CSC is a consortium of companies who previously contributed approximately 46 percent of total volume of waste to the site. Under a U. S. EPA Consent Decree, Civil Number 96-6518KWM, dated June 3, 1997; the CSC is responsible for certain remedial measures under Phase I and Phase II work activities. Major Phase I and Phase II work elements include site maintenance, liquids management, capping of the landfills, performance of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis, a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to evaluate final remedies, and groundwater monitoring.

Current remedial efforts at the Casmalia Site aim to contain previously disposed wastes to prevent the spread of contamination in soil, groundwater, and surface water. Removing waste is currently considered infeasible because of the large quantity disposed (i.e., approximately 4.5 billion pounds). During site operations liquid and solid wastes disposed ranged from heavy metals such as arsenic, chromium, and nickel, to organic compounds including solvents such as trichloroethylene and acetone; semi-volatile organic compounds including pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); petroleum hydrocarbons, oil field wastes, and minor quantities of miscellaneous wastes.

Update

Recent items of interest for the Casmalia Site include:

- Interim Collection, Treatment, and Disposal of Contaminated Liquids Element of Work

- United States Environmental Protection Agency (U. S. EPA) staff changes

- Status of Site Ponds

Interim Collection, Treatment, and Disposal of Contaminated Liquids Element of Work

The Interim Collection, Treatment, and Disposal of Contaminated Liquids Element of Work (interim liquids) is a Phase I work requirement under U. S. EPA's Consent Decree. The scope of work for interim liquids involves collection, treatment and disposal of contaminated liquids at the Casmalia Site. Interim liquids collection is an important first step for addressing groundwater contamination at the Casmalia Site.

In the last Board report staff detailed work efforts related to the "interim liquids" element of work for the Casmalia Site. An update to these activities is provided below.

In a March 24, 2000 letter to the CSC, U. S. EPA detailed required modifications for the interim liquids collection system. The Department of Toxic Substances Control and Regional Water Quality Control Board (collectively "the State") sent a letter to U. S. EPA dated May 1, 2000, supporting their requirements for modifying the interim liquids collection system at the Casmalia Site.

On May 4, 2000, U. S. EPA and the State attended a meeting with the CSC to discuss the technical and legal aspects of the interim liquids management requirements in U. S. EPA's letter. The letter required increased extraction of liquids and the installation of additional facilities to increase contaminant removal from source areas in groundwater.

The main issue raised by the CSC during the May 4, 2000 meeting was that the consent decree was written with the intent to allow use and enhancement of existing facilities as part of the interim liquids element of work, not additions of "new facilities." The CSC indicated U. S. EPA's interim liquids letter would require new facilities to achieve compliance with increased extraction rates. The CSC indicated the addition of new facilities went beyond the original intent of the consent decree as envisioned by the authors.
To help resolve this issue, U. S. EPA said they would discuss the original intent of the consent decree with agency staff. However, U. S. EPA indicated it might be problematic to determine the

original intent due to changes in personnel. If the issue could not be resolved, U. S. EPA indicated they would uphold the requirements in their March 24, 2000 interim liquids letter.

To date, U. S. EPA is working to resolve the issues surrounding the interim liquids element of work. The State will continue working with U. S. EPA and the CSC regarding resolution of the outstanding issues. Staff will report on the progress of this important aspect of site activities in the next Regional Board update.

U. S. EPA Staff Changes

The Casmalia project was being overseen by personnel in U. S. EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) division because of the site's former status as a RCRA regulated facility. Although the site was a RCRA facility, cleanup efforts have been undertaken pursuant to applicable regulations under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act – better known as "Superfund." In June 2000, U. S. EPA transferred the Casmalia project to the Superfund division to streamline regulation of the cleanup project. During the transfer, U. S. EPA assigned a new project manager with many of the former in-house team members staying with the project. The State expects coordination of project elements with U. S. EPA to remain unchanged.

Status of Site Ponds

As staff reported in the last Board report, the on-site ponds have adequate remaining storage capacity and a discharge via the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit is not expected this year. This was determined based on information on pond water levels provided by the CSC. However, dam safety and maintenance issues must be resolved by the CSC to ascertain "safe" high water levels during wet winter seasons. Work efforts between the agencies and the CSC continue regarding stability issues. The agencies' goal is to resolve the matters before the 2000/2001 winter season.

Another major issue that the agencies and CSC must resolve is on-site water use. Under the provisions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, the site owner/operator must maximize on-site water use to avoid a discharge to Casmalia Creek.

The ponds have a high salt content, which damages vegetation. Salts build up in the soil and reduce or kill vegetative cover. The State's position is that pond water should be treated to meet natural background concentrations for salt typical of the Casmalia Creek watershed. Pond water must also be treated to reduce contaminants such as elevated minerals, metals, and trace organic contamination such as pesticides. Once the water is treated, on-site water use would not damage vegetation and would not be restricted to certain areas.

In the interim, water use at the site can include dust control, irrigation and evaporation over areas where final landfill covers will be placed as part of the remediation effort, and irrigation and evaporation in areas scheduled for future clean up.
Another issue that must be addressed by the agencies and CSC is the presence of threatened and endangered species in the ponds. A pond water management plan is needed for the site to address this issue. Aspects of this plan are being negotiated between the State and U. S. EPA. The State, U. S. EPA, and CSC continue to work on developing an implementation plan that reasonably addresses on-site species issues.

Ultimately, some or all five surface water ponds will be closed as part of the site remedy required pursuant to U. S. EPA's consent decree Statement of Work. A future site-wide water management plan is envisioned where storm water would be allowed to leave the site after appropriate monitoring ensures the water meets all applicable water quality standards.

Lastly, the NPDES permit contains a reopener provision to incorporate revised water quality standards promulgated by U. S. EPA. Staff anticipated certain water quality standards would be revised by new U. S. EPA regulations in what is known as the "California Toxics Rule (**CTR**)." The CTR was recently approved for California and is applicable to surface water discharges regulated under NPDES permits. Staff will be revising the Casmalia NPDES permit accordingly for Regional Board consideration for adoption. In the next Regional Board update, staff will provide a target timeframe for the Board's consideration of the revised permit.

Unocal Avila Beach Projects [John M. Robertson 805/542-4630 and Diane Kukol 805/542-4637]

Avila Beach Reconstruction – Reconstruction of the excavation area continues with the re-paving of streets adjacent to Front Street. The Avila Beach Yacht Club was moved back to its original location at the landward end of the Avila Pier. The Avila Grocery has also been moved back to its original location on Front Street. Construction of beach and sea wall structures continues with completion slated for mid-July. Retaining wall reconstruction has been completed on the private properties along the north side of Front Street, within the former Cell 3 (See Attachment 3).

Avila Main Plume Ground Water - Post-excavation ground water monitoring wells have been installed and sampled in Cells 1A and 1B. Results from the first monitoring event indicate hydrocarbon concentrations in ground water have rapidly decreased relative to pre-excavation concentrations, reflecting the removal of contaminated soil and the associated oxygenation of the ground water. This oxygenation has enhanced the natural degradation processes. Results from the second and third monitoring events confirm the initial results and indicate that hydrocarbon concentrations have dropped below the 1 part per million cleanup goal specified in Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. 94-85. Based on this ground water data, Cells 1A and 1B are at concentrations appropriate for closure. Presently, Regional Board staff is awaiting delivery of the draft closure report for the Main Plume excavation. Following finalization of this document, closure letters will be issued for these cells.

Existing down-gradient monitoring wells will be used to evaluate ground water quality in the vicinity of the Beach Cells (Cells 2A-2E). Concentrations in the vicinity of these cells are still above the 1 part per million hydrocarbon cleanup goal. Hydrocarbon concentrations in the down-gradient portion of the beach will likely not decline as rapidly as Cells 1A and 1B, as this area was not directly oxygenated through excavation. Hydropunch samples for locations within Cell 3 indicate hydrocarbon concentrations have dropped below the 1 part per million cleanup goal specified in CAO No. 94-85. Very little ground water was encountered during the excavation of Cell 3, and the bottom confirmation samples from this cell indicate it is the cleanest of the major cells. Formal closure for the main excavation may be appropriate as soon as the fall/winter of this year.

Adjacent Plumes - Numerous additional smaller plumes are located throughout Avila Beach, but were not covered under the original scope of work specified in CAO No. 98-37. The cleanup requirements defined in the CAO have been carried forward for use on each of the adjacent plume excavations. Two of these additional plumes, Cell2E/west end and the former Cummings property plume (See attached map), were removed at the same time as the main plume excavation. Excavation of plumes on the former Lyon/Tognazzini and Farris/Bachino properties were completed this April.

Backfilling and compaction operations are now complete on the former Cummings, Lyon/Tognazzini, and Farris/Bachino properties. Regional Board staff has reviewed and commented on draft closure reports for each of these sites. Closure letters for each of these sites will follow approval of the final closure reports, and should be appropriate as soon as the summer/fall of this year.

Mitigation Project Review Process – Regional Board staff have completed preliminary review and screening of approximately 40 water-quality project proposals submitted last December in response to a request for proposals for funding from the Avila Beach settlement money. This preliminary evaluation will provide a rough grading for each proposal based on compliance with Board-adopted evaluation criteria. A more detailed evaluation of each project will be conducted following a public meeting in Avila Beach, scheduled for mid-July.

The Department of Fish and Game and the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District each received mitigation funding from the Avila Beach cleanup project and are conducting concurrent proposal review processes. Regional Board staff is working with both agencies by sharing proposals that cross agency jurisdictions to ensure full consideration of project proposals that

might benefit water quality. A combined publication of each agency's preliminary grouping of proposals will be mailed out to interested parties in advance of the July public meeting.

Intertidal Plume - A work plan for additional characterization of the Intertidal plume was completed and approved by the Regional Board, Department of Fish and Game, and the Port San Luis Harbor District in February. An investigation, including near-shore and marine sediment sampling in the vicinity of the Avila Pier, was conducted in early May. Preliminary petroleum hydrocarbon analysis obtained during the investigation indicated that the nature and extent of hydrocarbon contamination in the pier's vicinity seemed to be adequately characterized. A final summary report detailing the investigation and results is expected by the end of June.

Avila Tank Farm – Staff from the Regional Board, Unocal, and the Remediation Test Panel (RTP) finalized the RTP's data gap recommendations report in March. A work plan to address the majority of data gaps is expected to be distributed this summer, and characterization work is expected to begin soon thereafter. In accordance with some of the RTP's recommendations, however, aquifer testing was conducted at the Avila Tank Farm in mid-April. These tests were conducted to investigate hydrogeologic characteristics and spatial variability in the aquifer. A summary report addressing the aquifer tests is expected by mid-June.

Ballard Canyon Landfill, Santa Barbara County [Hector Hernandez 805/542/4641]

Site Investigation Status – Santa Barbara County continues to work on completely characterizing waste and resulting contamination at the former landfill. On June 14, 2000, the County submitted a progress report that also included proposed locations for new groundwater monitoring wells and vapor-monitoring probes. The final site-characterization report will be submitted by October 1, 2000.

Site Cleanup – The County is required to submit a feasibility study for corrective action within three months of Executive Officer approval of the final site characterization. In the interim, the County must construct and begin operating a landfill-gas extraction system. The County indicated it was planning to bid specific components of the proposed project through several contracts and would be able to design, construct, and begin operating the system by December 1, 2000. However, the County now explains it may not have the legal authority to informally bid the work through several contracts. Therefore, since it must abide by a formal competitive bid process, the interim gas collection system will not be operational until mid March 2001.

Air Quality Issues and Outside Agency Support

- To ensure all health and safety concerns are adequately evaluated and addressed, the County is required to provide a written response addressing comments received from the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) and the Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board) concerning landfill gas monitoring by June 26, 2000. The County must also propose a gas-monitoring network for the entire landfill. Regional Board staff intends to work closely with OEHHA, the Waste Board and the local enforcement agency to establish an effective gas-monitoring system.
- As requested by Regional Board staff, the Waste Board reviewed and evaluated the fate and transport portions of the County's health risk assessment. Comments and recommendations were received from the Waste Board on June 5, 2000. Staff has requested the County and the County agreed to address the Waste Board comments in its June 26, 2000 written response concerning landfill gas monitoring comments from OEHHA and the Waste Board.

Off-Site Pumping – Regional Board Staff directed the County to study off-site groundwater pumping in the immediate landfill vicinity. The County must determine the pumping rates and uses of potentially degraded water, what corrective measures it plans to take (if any) and provide an implementation schedule for any proposed activities. The County is required to provide a written response addressing groundwater pumping

from Erickson and Robertson wells by June 16, 2000.

Larner Domestic/Irrigation Well – In accordance with a Regional Board directive, the County drilled a test hole on Mr. Larner's property. The well is approximately 140 feet deep. County consultants believe the replacement well will adequately replace Mr. Larner's existing well that is threatened with landfill contamination. The County is working to complete installation of a pipeline to connect the new well with existing irrigation infrastructure.

(See Attachment 4)

General Waste Discharge Requirements in Los Osos [Sorrel Marks 805/549-3695]

At its March 31, 2000 meeting, the Board approved General Order No. 00-12, Waste Discharge Requirements for Residential On-site Wastewater Systems within the Bayview Heights and Martin Tract Areas of Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County. Since adoption of General Order No. 00-12, five single-family residential projects have filed Notices of Intent (applications) for coverage under the General Order. Each of the applicants' projects complies with the criteria specified in General Order No. 00-12 and has been approved for coverage under the Order.

Los Osos Wastewater Project [Sorrel Marks 805/549-3695]

Following is a brief summary of issues related to the Los Osos wastewater since the status report provided during the Board's March 31, 2000 meeting. The Los Osos Community Services District (CSD) submitted its quarterly status report on April 14, 2000. The report is included as EO Report Attachment 5a. The report indicates significant effort continues on the project, however project delays are also documented.

On April 28, 2000, the CSD requested extension of compliance dates specified in Cease and Desist Order Nos. 99-53, 99-54, 99-55 and 99-56. Staff's response to the CSD's request is included as EO Report Attachment 5b. The compliance schedule from the Cease and Desist Orders is listed at the bottom of the attached letter.

Santa Cruz BioTech, Santa Cruz County [William Arkfeld 805/542-4627]

This report is intended to update the Board of events since the May 19, 2000 Board meeting.

On May 25, 2000 Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc. (hereafter Biotech) notified the Board that they will commence manure land application on or after June 1, 2000. Manure land application is allowed under Board Order No. 99-007 during the dry season (April through October 1 of each year).

On May 30, 2000, the Board received a letter (dated May 25, 2000) from Assemblyman Fred Keeley's office. This letter and the Regional Board staff's response are attached (See Attachment 6).

On June 1, 2000, the Board received a "Groundwater Quality Monitoring Plan" prepared by Todd Engineers. Todd Engineers was hired by nearby property owners to evaluate impacts on ground water from Biotech's operation. A Regional Board staff geologist is scheduled to review this Plan and a previously submitted Plan (prepared by Biotech's geologist) during the month of July.

On June 5, 2000, the Board received a letter (attached) from Biotech (dated May 30) notifying the Board that fecal coliform levels exceeded water contact recreation standards at several surface water monitoring points. These samples were collected following several weeks of warm and relatively dry weather. Biotech suggests that wildlife activity during this dry weather period may have influenced the sample results.

On June 6, 2000, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors held a hearing to address the subject site. The Supervisors approved roof extensions for two barn complexes, an 800-foot manure land application setback from a community drinking water supply well, and other best management practices. However, they did not approve construction of storm water retention basins. Although the approval of roof extensions and other best management practices is expected to improve storm water quality, retention basins or another type of storm water treatment system may still be

necessary for Biotech to fully comply with Order No.99-007.

At the time this report was written, staff was considering appropriate enforcement against Santa Cruz Biotech. Staff will inform the Board at its September meeting (or sooner) of the enforcement action taken or recommended.

Monte Vista Christian School, Santa Cruz County [William Arkfeld 805/542-4627]

The Monte Vista Christian School currently manages their wastewater via septic tanks campus-wide. Septic tank effluent is managed by either localized drain fields or discharged to a sewer system that leads to two sewage disposal ponds. The two storage ponds are in series, shallow and wetland like. The school's consultant, Weber and Associates, is considering alternatives for upgrading the wastewater system to allow for a proposed 100% increase in the School's enrollment. No alternatives have been proposed at this time.

During an inspection on May 3, 2000, staff expressed concern that the School's sewage disposal ponds could overflow during heavy rain periods. To address this concern, the School is planning on raising the overflow pipe in the second pond and installing additional drain fields.

According to the May 4, 2000 "Groundwater Investigation Report" prepared by Weber, Hayes & Associates, levels of total dissolved solids, sodium and chloride are higher in a monitoring well located down gradient of the disposal ponds compared to up gradient monitoring well results. However, all constituents are at levels below drinking water standards. At least one more round of groundwater monitoring is recommended by the School's consultant. If the disposal ponds are confirmed to be causing impacts to groundwater, then corrective action/source control measures will be required.

The school is currently regulated under Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems." No enforcement action is recommended at this time.

City of Hollister Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility – Update Regarding Financial Report [Matt Fabry 805/549-3458]

In accordance with requirements set by the Regional Board at the May 19, 2000 meeting, the City of Hollister (City) submitted written verification (Attachment 7) of financial assets that are specifically set aside for the development and implementation of a long-term wastewater management program. The submittal includes a letter from Grace & Associates (certified public accountants) that indicates the City has approximately $10,000,000 in Sewer Funds Reserves and approximately $6,000,000 in Unrestricted General Fund Reserves. In addition, the City anticipates a three-year impact fee revenue stream of approximately $4,000,000.

After reviewing the City's submittal, Regional Board staff issued an approval letter for the initial allocation of 0.18 million gallons per day of diverted domestic wastewater flow to the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility. This allocation is specified in Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 00-020, which was adopted by the Regional Board at the May 19, 2000 meeting.

The City is proceeding with facilities improvements, such as removal of the upper eight feet of soil from the levee separating pond 5 from pond 5A. This material will be used for the construction of low berms or ramps within disposal ponds 3, 4, 5, and 6. The City is also putting in a more permanent diversion line at the siphon inlet near the San Benito River. This project includes a pump station and piping under Highway 156.

The City is currently backfilling industrial ponds with soil to increase filtration through the vadose zone (greater depth to ground water). The City is hauling stockpiled soils from the Domestic Plant to the Industrial Plant. As of this writing (June 21st), they have placed three feet of fill in Pond 5. Pond 6 will likely be done in the next few days. There are no excavation activities at the Industrial Plant.

Regional Monitoring [Karen Worcester 805/549-3333]

Monitoring Program Development -Karen Worcester attended a Monitoring and Assessment Roundtable meeting at the State Board offices to

discuss development of master contracts to support statewide ambient monitoring activities. The primary contractor will be the California Department of Fish and Game, with subcontracts to the University of California at Davis and others. The statewide contract will primarily support sediment, tissue and water chemistry analysis, benthic invertebrate identification, and toxicity testing. Contracting request memos for both statewide and regionally scoped contracts will be developed over the next month or so.

Karen Worcester met with State Board staff Victor deVlaming and Michael Perrone to discuss how to best integrate toxicity testing with Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) ambient monitoring activities. We will be developing some suggestions and working with State Board staff and Granite Canyon Marine Pollution Laboratory to implement toxicity monitoring activities during the 2001 sampling effort in the Santa Barbara area.

The Monterey Bay Area Dischargers group met to discuss progress on the pilot marine monitoring plan for the Monterey Bay area. Regional Board staff have provided input, particularly related to increasing the level of detail in developing monitoring objectives and questions. The plan will be presented to Sanctuary staff and to local scientists on June 22.

Funds will available through the Diablo Canyon PG&E settlement to support nearshore monitoring activities in the San Luis Obispo county coastal area, according to the tentative agreement. Roger Briggs, Michael Thomas, and Karen Worcester met with PG&E staff to discuss CCAMP and the Monterey area discharger effort. Karen has introduced the idea of participating in regional nearshore monitoring to Cal Trans staff, and will be including this agency as a player in our central coast effort.

Karen Worcester and Regional Board volunteer Dave Paradies met with Department of Fish and Game and U.C. Davis researchers to discuss pathogen monitoring activities. Cal Trans is currently funding Mike Stallard at UCD to conduct a comprehensive study of pathogens in stormwater runoff from transportation facilities. The CalTrans stormwater monitoring effort has a $40 million annual budget. A lot of sampling effort has been focused in southern California urban areas. They are studying human pathogens, including viruses, bacteria and protozoans, using Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), immunohistochemical techniques, and other new approaches. Other researchers at UCD are collaborating with CDFG to study how pathogens in stormwater runoff and other sources are impacting sea otter mortality. We discussed whether there were opportunities for collaboration between the two efforts and may be working with the Cal Trans effort to look at pathogens in more detail in one of our watersheds.

Data Management - Considerable effort has gone into data management recently. We have integrated several data sets into our master data entry program, DataMon, and are now working on completing a benthic invertebrate data entry component. We provided support to TMDL staff with regard to data management and interpretation, and they are using DataMon and other CCAMP tools for their data management needs. TMDL data related to a Board agenda item was placed on the CCAMP web site for download.

Karen Worcester met with Jon Bishop (Region 4), Bob Klamt (Region 1), Michael Perrone (Division of Water Quality), James Miers (Office of Information Technology) and Gigi Smith (OIT) to discuss how to best support upcoming statewide monitoring data management needs. We have decided that using DataMon or something like it as a "front end" for the existing SWIM system will provide flexibility and ease of use. Region 4 has dedicated staff time set aside to address data input needs for SWIM. Karen will be meeting with Region 4 staff and Dave Paradies to discuss this further.

We had a request from the Cayucos Abalone Farm for information on the types of pesticides utilized in the Villa Creek drainage. We were able to supply them with a chart and map of the various pesticides used in the watershed, using our tool for accessing data from the Department of Pesticide Regulation application database.

Administrative - Karen Worcester has been the statewide lead for budget development activities for Monitoring and Assessment in FY 2001-02. She has been working with Clean Water Programs staff and some regional board staff to develop a paper which addresses monitoring of both surface water and ground water.

Inland Surface Waters Policy [Roger Briggs 805/549-3140]

On April 28, 2000, the State Office of Administrative Law approved the State Board's Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (hereafter "Policy"). The Policy becomes effective immediately and its goal is to standardize permitting procedures to control potentially toxic discharges of wastes for specific priority pollutants into non-ocean surface waters, like the San Lorenzo River. The specific pollutants and pollutant limitations are identified in what is known as the California Toxics Rule (CTR), also recently approved by USEPA. The Policy essentially requires that:

NPDES permits for facilities such as wastewater treatment plants discharging to inland surface waters must include effluent limits for specific toxic pollutants;

discharges of wastes from nonpoint sources, like agricultural return flows, that may contain specific pollutants in toxic amounts must also be controlled;

monitoring must be implemented for certain toxins;

other chronic toxicity provisions must be implemented; and

the controls/limits be enforced.

The Policy provides technical guidance for developing appropriate controls and resolving potential conflicts between Regional Board Basin Plan limits for surface waters and CTR limits. It can also be used as a tool to complement watershed management and the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process.

Regional Board staff will update NPDES permits on a case-by-case basis and continue to implement a tiered-approach to control nonpoint sources to implement the Policy. Staff is scheduled to attend training for Policy implementation this summer (June-July) in Riverside or Sacramento.

Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Program [Roger Briggs 805/549-3140]

The web page below lists the projects that have been approved for funding out of the first 1/3 of the federal Salmonid Initiative money. The entire list of approved projects can be seen at:

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/nafwrb/fedgrants.htm

as well as attached to this report (See Attachment 8).

These projects have been approved for funding by the Director of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), pursuant to Section 8 of the Memorandum of Understanding between DFG, The Resources Agency and the National Marine Fisheries Service describing the disbursement of discretionary funds. Funding of these projects is contingent upon passage of State Legislation authorizing expenditures, and the completion of the fund transfer from the federal government to the State of California, (process underway). I understand there is going to be a separate RFP process for the remaining 2/3 of this year's Salmonid Initiative funds.

ATTACHMENTS

1. List of Underground Storage Tank Sites with MTBE in Ground Water
2. Buena Vista Mines, Inc. – Biaggini Ltr to EPA
3. Avila Beach Projects - Plume Locations Map
4. Ballard Canyon Well and Site Location Maps
5. a) Los Osos WWP – Ltr dtd 6/1/00
   b) Los Osos WWP – Ltr dtd 4/14/00
6. Santa Cruz BioTech – Letter from Assemblyman Keeley
7. City of Hollister Financial Asset Letters
8. Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Program – List of Projects and Funding
9. Underground Tanks Summary Report dtd 6/15/00